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Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during July totaled 400,000 pounds, down 20 percent from June and from the previous year.

There were 400 head of **cattle** slaughtered during July, unchanged from June but down 200 head from the previous year. Average live weight was 770 pounds, up nine pounds from the previous month and 58 pounds above July 2009. Total live weight, at 320,000 pounds, was down two percent from the previous month and 30 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during July totaled 400 head, down 100 head from June but unchanged from the previous year. Live weight averaged 536 pounds, up eight pounds from June and 29 pounds above July 2009. Total live weight, at 210,000 pounds, was 15 percent below June but 15 percent above the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during July totaled 700 head, down 100 head from the previous month and the previous year. Average live weight was 194 pounds, up five pounds from June 2010 but six pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 135,000 pounds, down nine percent from June and 17 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during July was 300 head, the same as in June and the previous year. Live weight averaged 61 pounds, down two pounds from the previous month but five pounds above the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.0 billion pounds in July, down four percent from the 4.1 billion pounds produced in July 2009.

July 2010 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. **July 2009** contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.2 billion pounds, was two percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.9 million head, down one percent from July 2009. The average live weight was down nine pounds from the previous year, at 1,273 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.9 million pounds, one percent above July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 75,100 head, down six percent from July 2009. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from last year, at 251 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.7 billion pounds, down seven percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.5 million head, down seven percent from July 2009. The average live weight was up two pounds from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.8 million pounds, was down eight percent from July 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 197,400 head, five percent below last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down four pounds from July a year ago.

January to July 2010 commercial red meat production was 27.8 billion pounds, down two percent from 2009. Accumulated beef production was down one percent from last year; veal was down two percent; pork was down four percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down three percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	June	July		January – July		July		January – July	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2009
----- Number, thousand head -----									
Cattle	0.4	0.6	0.4	4.4	3.1	2,921.6	2,900.2	19,500.7	19,750.7
Calves	0.5	0.4	0.4	2.3	3.0	80.1	75.1	529.3	509.3
Hogs	0.8	0.8	0.7	7.4	6.6	9,148.3	8,469.2	64,723.6	62,169.4
Sheep & Lambs	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.5	2.1	207.3	197.4	1,413.8	1,410.0
----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----									
Cattle	325	456	320	3,269	2,412	3,732,720	3,680,068	25,007,865	24,973,136
Calves	246	183	210	1,173	1,652	18,270	18,571	133,757	130,388
Hogs	149	162	135	1,497	1,278	2,444,787	2,275,363	17,514,436	16,845,580
Sheep & Lambs	21	18	19	161	147	27,937	25,751	196,160	191,128
----- Average live weight, pounds -----									
Cattle	761	712	770	743	778	1,282	1,273	1,287	1,269
Calves	528	507	536	510	551	230	251	256	260
Hogs	189	200	194	202	194	267	269	271	271
Sheep & Lambs	63	56	61	64	70	135	131	139	136
----- Million pounds -----									
Red Meat	0.5	0.5	0.4	3.8	3.4	4,124.5	3,956.4	28,430.1	27,813.5

August Farm Prices Received Index Up

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 145 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased three points from July. The Crop Index was up five points and the Livestock Index increased one point. Producers received higher prices for wheat, corn, milk and cattle and lower prices for broilers, lettuce, onions and cantaloups. In addition to prices, the overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of cattle, grapes, sweet corn and potatoes offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, strawberries and milk.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 19 points from August 2009. The Food Commodities Index, at 145, increased three points from last month and increased 21 points from August 2009.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The August Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates was 182 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index was unchanged from July but five points above August 2009. Lower prices in August for nitrogen, feeder pigs, feeder cattle and hay & forages offset higher prices for concentrates, diesel, feed grains and LP gas.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	August 2009	July 2010	August 2010 ¹	August 2009	July 2010	August 2010 ¹
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	10.10	9.90	2/	10.80	9.79	10.10
Sorghum, per cwt	n/a	2/	2/	5.37	5.97	6.28
Rice, per cwt	12.40	12.80	10.10	14.70	12.30	12.10
Upland Cotton, per pound	2/	.673	2/	.477	.673	.626 ³
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	104.00	112.00	111.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	57.80	69.30	70.50	80.40	91.60	93.20
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	85.30	98.50	97.00	85.10	95.90	97.70
Cows, per cwt ⁵	41.70	54.30	55.00	45.50	59.00	58.20
Calves, per cwt	93.30	111.00	112.00	108.00	120.00	120.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.430	.510	.480
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.758	.708	.792
Milk, All, per cwt ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	12.10	16.00	16.60

¹ Mid-month.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

⁴ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums.

Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available.

Delta States Farm Labor

Farm labor estimates are made for the combined Delta states: Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. The Delta states had 29,000 hired workers on farms and ranches during the week of July 11-17, 2010, down 15 percent from July 12-18, 2009. Of the 29,000 hired workers, workers who work 150 days or more a year accounted for 62 percent of the total, and workers who work 149 days or fewer accounted for the remaining 38 percent.

The average wage rate in the Delta states for all hired farm workers was \$9.34 per hour compared to \$9.42 per hour in July 2009. Delta states hired farm workers averaged \$1.48 per hour less than the average U. S. hired farm worker. Livestock workers earned \$8.96 per hour compared to \$9.15 per hour a year earlier. Field workers were earning \$9.02, or \$.33 cents more per hour this July than last July.

The average numbers of hours worked, at 38.3 hours per week, was 2.7 hours less per week than the current U.S. average of 41.0 hours per week.

United States Farm Labor

There were 1,244,000 hired workers on the nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 11-17, 2010, down one percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 894,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 350,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.82 per hour during the July 2010 reference week, up 16 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.12 per hour, up eight cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$10.19 per hour compared with \$10.05 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.14 per hour, was up ten cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.0 for hired workers during the survey week, up three percent from a year ago.

Farm Labor & Wage Rates: Delta and United States

Item	Delta ¹			United States		
	July 2009	April 2010	July 2010	July 2009	April ² 2010	July 2010
Hired Workers (All)	34	38	29	875	737	894
Ag Service Workers	---	---	---	381	261	350
Hired Farm Workers	34	38	29	1,256	998	1,244
150 Days or More	28	33	18	609	585	634
149 Days or Less	6	5	11	266	152	260
Average Hours Worked (Hired Farm Workers)	38.5	43.0	38.3	39.7	39.8	41.0
Average Wage Rate (Hired Farm Workers)	\$9.42	\$9.85	\$9.34	\$10.66	\$10.82	\$10.82
By Type of Worker						
Field	\$8.69	\$9.37	\$9.02	\$10.04	\$10.04	\$10.12
Livestock	\$9.15	\$8.92	\$8.96	\$10.05	\$10.30	\$10.19

¹ Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

--- Data not published.

United States Rice Stocks Up

Rough rice stocks in all positions on August 1, 2010, totaled 30.4 million hundredweight (cwt), up 23 percent from the total on August 1, 2009. Stocks held on farms totaled 1.2 million cwt and off-farm stocks totaled 29.2 million cwt. Long grain varieties accounted for 64 percent of the total rough rice, medium grain accounted for 32 percent, and short grain varieties accounted for four percent.

Milled rice stocks in all positions totaled 4.4 million cwt, up seven percent from a year ago. Milled rice stocks were comprised of 3.4 million cwt of whole kernel rice and 1.0 million cwt of second heads, screenings and brewers rice.

United States Rice Stocks

Date	On Farm	Off Farm ¹ Farm	Total All Positions
	(Domestic Units – 1,000 Cwt)		
	-----Rough Rice-----		
August 1, 2009	876	23,787	24,663
June 1, 2010	6,310	51,098	57,408
August 1, 2010	1,200	29,176	30,376
	-----Milled Rice-----		
	August 1, 2009	---	4,077
	June 1, 2010	---	4,520
August 1, 2010	---	4,380	4,380

¹ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, ports and in transit.

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